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Lime Scale is a Major Problem by [Julia Roger](#)

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Every time you wash cloths, you might find it hard to get rid of the dirt. After washing dishes, you might find a white powder like substance on it. This is nothing but the lime scale found in hard water that settles on the plates after wash. This is not present in soft water like rain water. Lime scale is calcium or magnesium derivatives or carbonates that are present in high concentration in water, which hardens it. This results in scale formation on water heater reducing the heat transfer to water. Instead, it heats the surface of the boiler or kettle. A layer of Lime scale formation happens even on water pipes which block the water flow.

The milky layer of Lime scale creates a problem not only for machine but even for humans as it removes moisture from the skin and lead to hair fall too. limescale makes water unfit for drinking or cooking as it gives an odd flavor to the water. Water softener or a scale remover can be used to soften water, which will remove these ions from water and makes the water soft. Ion exchange water softener is available in the market. But this is not recommended for cooking or drinking as the softener might give out water with high concentration of sodium, which is not fit for consumption.

Lime scale is a common problem in areas with hard water. There are home remedies available which are easier solutions than using water softeners. One can use vinegar (usually white vinegar) and lemon in a bowl of water to wash dishes. This mixture can clean the lime scale deposition. Vinegar along with borax can remove lime scale from toilet. If a Paste made from a mixture of baking soda with water is used as a cover for pipes and later washed, it will help remove the surface lime scale too.

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